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GERMAN OFFENSIVE NEARS STRASBOURG IN 3-PRONG THRUST

Anti-Axis Attacks in North and South Totally Stopped By Skilful Defense

Domei

LISBON, January 6.—A second German winter offensive threatened Strasbourg on the Rhine from three directions today as British and American troops butted against a stonewall German resistance in the hard wedge driven by Field Marshal von Rundstedt's first surprise attack across Luxemburg and into Belgium, frontline reports said today.

The second German drive had burst through the American 7th army lines for 15 miles in five days southeast of Bitsch in northern Alsace and the Americans still fought to wipe out an advance guard which had filtered into Wingen on the Moder River, about ten miles southeast of Bitsch and 28 miles northwest of Strasbourg. At this point the Germans were within 12 miles of Saverne.

The Germans landed at least in battalion strength along a seven mile stretch on the west bank of the Rhine within seven miles north of Strasbourg. Other German units lashed out from the northern rim of the Colmar bridgehead and drove into Meunkirch, 19 miles south of Strasbourg.

Although frontline dispatches said this new offensive had been blunted, it threatened to pinch out a 30-mile deep salient, which the anti-Axis troops had won at great cost, between the Saar and the Rhine. The Americans were drawing back from the Wissemburg area and army authorities were fighting to prevent panic in Strasbourg and Haguenau.

The Germans had brought up heavy artillery, up to 280 mm. long-range guns, and were pounding the American rear centers of Saaralbe and Saar Union.

The situation at Wingen was still obscure and no one is quite sure how strong the Germans were in that area and whether the anti-Axis still controlled vital highways from Strasbourg to Saar Union and Sarreguemines.

Meanwhile the situation around the German bulge in Belgium was not much better. The slight gains and even some withdrawals of anti-Axis forces around the rim of Rundstedt's Ardennes bulge indicated the offensive to erase the damage of the breakthrough had ground to a virtual stop. Terrible weather and skillful German defense put a full stop to the anti-Axis offensives both on the north and on the south.

Germans Rolling Forward

Domei

BERLIN, January 6.—The German armies continued to roll forward with amazing rapidity between the Vosges and the Rhine and the most advance spearheads crossed the Rhine at several points north of Strasbourg yesterday as Major General Patch issued a desperate appeal to his 7th army troops to continue resistance.

American resistance was stronger on the western flank in the area south of Sarreguemines, but in the area to the east hard-pressed American troops fell back toward Haguenau.

Patch's men launched desperate counterattacks to stem the German advance east of Sarreguemines and south of Bitsch, but the German columns lashed out further gains and after crossing the Lauter on a broad front advanced southward between the lower Vosges and Rhine. Weissemburg and Lauterburg and numerous smaller localities were recaptured and the German spearheads have thrust forward to 10 kilometers south of Weissemburg.

Patch strengthened his resistance with support from an additional three divisions from central Alsace in the region of Bitsch and tried to stem the German assault wedge which has already slashed ahead 20 kilometers south of the town.

The battle in Ardennes, meanwhile, is hourly developing into an armored battle of the first magnitude. The focal point continued to lie on the northern flank of the German penetration area where Hodge's men carried out repeated attacks against the German barrier between Stavelot and Marche. In fluctuating fighting, two dents were formed, but all other assaults by tanks and infantry forces were smashed in front of the German positions.

On the south side of the German salient, marked increase in German resistance was noticeable and German counterthrusts gained ground northwest and northeast of Bastogne.

As the situation stands at present in the big Ardennes battle, the Americans are attacking against the northern flank between Marche and Stavelot while the Germans on the southern flank are lashing out attacks against Patton's army. The situation was compared by Rundstedt's Headquarters to a boxer who dealt out powerful blows with his left fist while defending himself with the right.

London Poles Bitterly Score Moscow For Recognizing Rival Lublin Regime

Domei

LISBON, January 6.—Charging that the Soviet recognition of the Lublin Polish regime constitutes a violation of the fundamental rights of the Polish people as an independent nation and of their right to decide their own international existence on their own free will, the Polish Government in exile in London today severely attacked the Soviet Government, a London dispatch declared.

In a statement issued through the Polish News Agency in Britain, the exile Government expressed great regret over the Soviet action, declaring that it had seriously desired a perpetual understanding between Poland and the Soviet Union.

The London Polish Government asserted that by the Soviet action any understanding between it and the Soviet Union has become aggravated and that this would not contribute in any way to the solidarity of the anti-Axis nations in their fight against their enemies.

Soviet Recognizes Lublin

The Soviet Union finally extended its recognition to the Polish Provisional Government of Lublin. In reporting this step taken by the Soviet Union, the United States and British news agencies have alleged that this latest move by the Soviets did not come as any surprise to their Governments at Washington and London. Probably, the British and the United States Governments were too dumbfounded to express any surprise, says Isamu Inouye, Domei commentator.

Several days ago, the British and the United States Governments—the former through Anthony Eden, Foreign Secretary, and the latter through Edward Stettinius, Secretary of State, declared that they will continue to recognize the rival Polish Government at London.

Taking everything into consideration, the Soviet step can be interpreted as a direct challenge to the British and the United States Governments rather than to the exiled Polish regime in London itself. To the Soviet Union whose diplomatic policy is a realistic one, such a dead letter as the Atlantic Charter is utterly without value. And it will be safe to say that the refugee Polish regime at London will sooner or later cease to function even though it is supported by London and Washington.

With the much-propagandized "Big Three" meeting scheduled to be held in the very near future, the Soviet Union has established a fact—the recognition of the Polish Provisional Government of Lublin.

So far as the Soviet Union is concerned, there no longer exists a Polish problem. The British spokesman declared, "Th Soviet action does not in any way affect the policy of the British Government." The Soviet Union, however, is sure to retort by saying that the British policy does not affect in any way the Soviet action.

MACMILLAN, ALEXANDER ARRIVE IN GREEK CAPITAL

Tense Situation Compels Britishers to See Regent, Scobie And Plastiras

Domei

LISBON, January 6.—The unrelieved tension in Greece compelled Harold MacMillan, British Ambassador in Central Mediterranean, and Field Marshal Sir Harold Alexander, Supreme Commander of the Anti-Axis Forces in the Mediterranean area, to go to Athens once more this afternoon, according to an Athens dispatch.

Both men, the report said, held lengthy discussions concerning the prevailing situation with Regent Archbishop Damaskinos, Lieutenant General Ronald Scobie, Commander of the British Forces in Greece, and Greek Prime Minister General Nicholas Plastiras.

Meanwhile, a Reuter report from Athens said that Athens and Piraeus have been completely freed of ELAS troops by last night and only few snipers are still reported to be holding out in the northern end of the Greek capital.

British columns were last reported outside Athens striking westward the ELAS stronghold at Elefsis. The report said that since early yesterday morning, British forces in the city had met no resistance and have now swept round across three main roads leading northward out of the city.

PEOPLE IN U.S. DECEIVED

France, Belgium Did Not Suffer Under Germans, Says Crawford

Domei

LISBON, January 5.—That France and Belgium were suffering under German occupation is an exaggeration and the Americans have not been told the truth about Europe because of the strict American censorship, Frederick Crawford, president of the American Munitions Producers' Alliance, declared today, according to a New York dispatch.

Speaking before the New York Chamber of Commerce, Crawford, who has just returned from a tour of the "liberated" zones of Europe, attacked the fact that the Americans have not been told the truth. He said that France under the Germans enjoyed a consumers' prosperity and that this aided in great degree to make the French like the Germans. Crawford asserted that according to what he had heard the French would have desired the continuation of such a situation forever had it continued for a year and a half more.

HOME MINISTRY BARES NEW PERSONNEL SHIFTS

Narita Is Given Taiwan Post; Fujioka Appointed Governor Of Hyogo Prefecture

Ichiro Narita, Governor of Hyogo Prefecture, has been appointed Director General of the General Affairs Department of the Taiwan Government General replacing Itsuki Saito, while Nagatoshi Fujioka, Director of the Traffic Bureau of the Tokyo Metropolitan Government, has been appointed Governor of Hyogo Prefecture succeeding Mr. Narita, the Home Ministry announced on Saturday.

Mr. Narita has long been in the service of the Home Ministry. He was appointed Governor of Ishikawa Prefecture in April 1939, and then served as director of various bureaus of the Home Ministry. He has been Governor of Hyogo Prefecture since June 1942.

Mr. Fujioka, the new Governor of Hyogo Prefecture, once occupied the post of Governor of Kagawa Prefecture and also served as Director of the Planning and Air Defense Bureaus of the Home Ministry. After occupying the post of Governor of Shizuoka Prefecture, he was made Director of the Traffic Bureau of the Tokyo Metropolitan Government in July 1943, and has been in that post till his latest appointment.

Narita Arrives Here

Ichiro Narita, the new Secretary General of Taiwan, arrived at Tokyo Station at 10:08 p.m. on Saturday and immediately proceeded to his home in Meguro.

On Sunday, at 9 a.m., he visited the Tokyo Office of the Taiwan Government General and later called at the Home Ministry for consultations. En route to his new post, Mr. Narita will stop at Kobe to turn over his duties to Nagatoshi Fujioka, the new Governor of Hyogo Prefecture.

Hanover, Berlin Raided

Domei

LISBON, January 6.—The biggest air battle in several months took place over Hanover last night as every available nightfighter of the Luftwaffe took to the air to deal heavy blows on British Lancaster and Halifax formations which raided the city, according to reports from London. While the Lancasters and Halifaxes were raiding Hanover in formation or separately, Mosquito units carried out two raids on Berlin, the reports said. It was added that more than 1,000 British planes were used for the raids last night.

New Canterbury Archbishop

Domei

LISBON, January 6.—Rt. Rev. Geoffrey Francis Fisher, Supervisor of the Archdiocese of London and concurrently Deacon of the Court Chapel, has been named to succeed the late William Temple as Archbishop of Canterbury and Supervisor General of Britain, according to a London report. Fisher has been known as an administrator and was formerly the Bishop of Chester. The Archbishop of Canterbury crowns the King of England at the coronation.

GERMANS IN VERTES AREA FRUSTRATE SOVIET MOVES

Soviets Held Back in Budapest Drives; Lull Broken in East Prussia Border Zone

Domei

BERLIN, January 6.—Soviet pressure against Budapest was concentrated mainly in the eastern sector yesterday while their wedge in the west was weakened considerably by the new German offensive operations in the Vertes mountains west of the capital. In grim house-to-house fighting on the eastern bank of the Danube, German-Hungarian garrisons again held back all Soviet assaults.

German offensive operations in the Vertes mountain area between Komorn and Budapest and in the sector west of Gran has definitely frustrated the Soviet attempt to advance to Komorn, but no further news of the fighting has been released by German quarters. It is gathered, however, that German counterattacks are very strong.

In the region between Lake Balaton and the Danube, German panzer forces with effective Luftwaffe support continued their offensive fighting and pushed the Soviet back.

In the sector north of the Danube, Soviet troops continued their attacks against the southern Slovakian border in the Gran sector and made some dents which were immediately sealed off. The majority of the attacks between Gran and Gross-Steffelsdorf, however, broke down.

Meanwhile, the calm before the storm in the northern sector of the extended Eastern Front was broken yesterday by local German forces which thrust forward into the deployment movements of the Red Army in the East Prussian border area. German forces with strong tank support launched a surprise break into the deeply echeloned Soviet positions northwest of Filipoff and latest reports said that German grenadiers destroyed 15 Soviet tanks and 29 guns in addition to inflicting heavy losses in men.

The latest German operation proved beyond doubt that the Germans are still holding the initiative in this region.

In the region between Narev and the eastern Beskides neither side made any large-scale operations, but German quarters stressed that the front requires close attention.

Soviet Offensive Seen Near

Domei

STOCKHOLM, January 5.—Concentrations of Soviet and Polish forces in the Praga sector on the Vistula, east of Warsaw, and the imminence of the start of a Soviet winter offensive on the Vistula front were reported by the United Press special correspondent in Moscow, Shapiro, today.

The Moscow radio today also forecast the imminence of a Red Army offensive in the area.

Shapiro's report and the Moscow radio's forecast are taken as confirmation of the German dispatches pointing out that offensive preparations are being made by the Soviet forces in the Vistula bridgehead.

3 ARMY HEROES HONORED

Colonels Suzuki, Hokota, Shimada Posthumously Promoted

Colonels Tatsunosuke Suzuki, Keijiro Hokota, and Masayoshi Shimada have been posthumously promoted to the rank of major general, it was announced by the War Ministry on Sunday.

Major General Suzuki, a native of Tokyo, was killed in action at the front on October 23 last year. Major General Hokota, who hails from Ishikawa Prefecture, was also killed in action on October 23 last year, while Major General Shimada, a native of Ishikawa Prefecture, was killed in action on November 19 last year.

U.S. Bans Large Meeting

Domei

LISBON, January 6.—All American annual business conventions involving an attendance of more than 50 persons will be prohibited after February 1 according to the decree issued by James Byrnes, Director of the War Mobilization Office, a Washington dispatch said. Byrnes in issuing the decree explained that the measure was necessary to relieve the over-crowded railways and hotels. He said that exceptions for larger conventions will be made only in the case the enterprise is serving the nation's war effort, but that all such exceptions will require special permission. It is learned that some 5,000 business conventions held in the United States annually will be affected by Byrnes' decree.

CONVOY NEAR NEGROS ISLE HIT BY JAPANESE AIR UNIT

Enemy Destroyer Sunk in Sulu Sea by Submarine in Morning Attack

Domei

PHILIPPINE BASE, January 7.—Taking off immediately upon reports that an enemy convoy had been sighted steaming south of Negros Island yesterday evening, the Kongo Unit of the Special Attack Corps smashed into it and is believed to have dealt it severe losses.

Submarine Sinks Destroyer

Domei

PHILIPPINE BASE, January 7.—Early on Wednesday morning, a Japanese submarine catching up with a group of enemy warships and other vessels in the Sulu Sea, sank one destroyer.

35 Raiders Meet Doom

Domei

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC BASE, January 7.—Japanese Units stationed at Menado in Celebes shot down 25 and damaged 10 of the total of 120 enemy medium and small planes which attacked the area during daylight Friday. Also during daylight on the same day Japanese Units in Halmahera shot down two of the 40-odd enemy medium and small planes which attacked the island.

Enemy Landing Crushed

By a Member of the Military Press Corps

FRONT BASE IN THE PHILIPPINES, January 6.—Continuing to strike hard at the enemy, Japanese Forces on Leyte on December 31, repulsed an enemy landing attempt at a point six kilometers south of Villaba. The enemy landing effort directed from the Palompon area with ten tanks was smashed at the water's edge with two amphibious tanks set ablaze. On January 2, the Japanese Forces attacked the enemy in the Villaba region and occupied the heights north and south of that district. They are at present engaged in mopping up enemy remnants in the Villaba region.

Yiojima Again Bombarded

Domei

CENTRAL PACIFIC BASE, January 6.—At Friday noon, 30 B-24 bombers air raided Yiojima in several formations. The same afternoon, a small squadron of hostile warships again bombarded the island. In the ensuing battle, the Japanese garrison on the island shot down one enemy plane, and repulsed the enemy warships, after inflicting considerable damage.

San Jose Base Hit

Domei

PHILIPPINE FRONT BASE, January 6.—At midnight yesterday, a Japanese Air Unit raided the South Airfield at San Jose, all the bombs hitting the runway. None of the Japanese planes was lost in this air raid.

Manila Area Attacked

Domei

PHILIPPINE BASE, January 6.—Forty-six large planes, including B-24's and 28 carrier based Grummans from a task force attacked the Manila area this morning and fled after dropping bombs at random.

3 U.S. Warships Blasted

Domei

PHILIPPINE BASE, January 6.—Japanese Air Units attacking enemy torpedo boats and destroyers in the waters south of San Jose on Mindoro Island on the afternoon of January 4 inflicted heavy damage on one of the destroyers and damaged two torpedo boats by bombing and strafing attacks.

On the same afternoon, about 50 B-24's and P-38's raided Mindanao Island while combined formations, comprising 80 fighters and bombers visited the central Philippine area. Port Princesa on Palawan Island was also visited by 20-odd B-24's.

Ogasawara Group Attacked

Domei

CENTRAL PACIFIC BASE, January 6.—Small units of enemy surface craft approached Chichijima and Hahajima Islands of the Ogasawara Group early yesterday morning and carried out bombardment against the Island but were repulsed. Yiojima was raided by 10-odd large enemy planes yesterday afternoon.

Eire President Retiring

Domei

LISBON, January 6.—Douglas Hyde, 84-year-old, President of Eire, has decided to retire because of advanced age and has informed Eamon de Valera, Prime Minister of Eire, that he will not stand for reelection after the termination of his present term, a Dublin report said today.

IMPERIAL RESCRIPT OBSERVANCE DAY

Imperial Rescript

We, by grace of heaven, Emperor of Japan, seated on the Throne of a line unbroken for ages eternal, enjoin upon ye, Our loyal and brave subjects:

We hereby declare war on the United States of America and the British Empire. The men and officers of Our Army and Navy shall do their utmost in prosecuting the war, Our public servants of various departments shall perform faithfully and diligently their appointed tasks, and all other subjects of Ours shall pursue their respective duties; the entire nation with a united will shall mobilize their total strength so that nothing will miscarry in the attainment of Our war aims.

To insure the stability of East Asia and to contribute to world peace is the far-sighted policy which was formulated by Our Great Illustrious Imperial Grandsire and Our Great Imperial Sire succeeding Him, and which We lay constantly to heart. To cultivate friendship among nations and to enjoy prosperity in common with all nations has always been the guiding principle of Our Empire's foreign policy. It has been truly unavoidable and far from Our wishes that Our Empire has now been brought to cross swords with America and Britain. More than four years have passed since China, failing to comprehend the true intentions of Our Empire, and recklessly courting trouble, disturbed the peace of East Asia and compelled Our Empire to take up arms. Although there has been re-established the National Government of China, with which Japan has effected neighborly intercourse and cooperation, the regime which has survived at Chungking, relying upon American and British protection, still continues its fratricidal opposition. Eager for the realization of their inordinate ambition to dominate the Orient, both America and Britain, giving support to the Chungking regime, have aggravated the disturbances in East Asia. Moreover, these two Powers, inducing other countries to follow suit, increased military preparations on all sides of Our Empire to challenge us. They have obstructed by every means our peaceful commerce, and finally resorted to a direct severance of economic relations, menacing gravely the existence of Our Empire. Patiently have We waited and long have We endured, in the hope that Our Government might retrieve the situation in peace. But our adversaries, showing not the least spirit of conciliation, have unduly delayed a settlement; and in the meantime, they have intensified the economic and political pressure to compel thereby Our Empire to submission. This trend of affairs would, if left unchecked, not only nullify Our Empire's efforts of many years for the sake of the stabilization of East Asia, but also endanger the very existence of Our nation. The situation being such as it is, Our Empire for its existence and self-defense has no other recourse but to appeal to arms and to crush every obstacle in its path.

The hallowed spirits of Our Imperial Ancestors guarding Us from above, We rely upon the loyalty and courage of Our subjects in Our confident expectation that the task bequeathed by Our forefathers will be carried forward, and that the sources of evil will be speedily eradicated and an enduring peace immutably established in East Asia, preserving thereby the glory of Our Empire.

(Imperial Sign Manual)
(Imperial Seal)

The 8th day of the 12th month of the 16th year of Showa.

TATEKAWA QUITTING POST AS MANHOOD CORPS HEAD

Submits Resignation to Koiso Due to Illness; Bolstering Movement Urged

Lieutenant General Yoshitsugu Tatekawa, President of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association Manhood Corps, has handed in his resignation to Prime Minister General Kuniaki Koiso, who is the President of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association.

Lieutenant General Tatekawa's immediate reason for resigning is ill health, but it was also brought about in view of the past half year's development of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association Manhood Corps movement and the position in which the organization was placed. Lieutenant General Tatekawa's resignation casts a stone in the pool of the problem of reorganizing the structure.

Whether or not the resignation will be accepted is not yet known. On Saturday at 3 p.m., representatives of the various organizations under the Imperial Rule Assistance Association Manhood Corps visited the Prime Minister and asked his powerful leadership for a driving development of the national movement. The intensification of the activities of the national movement camp is being noted as a manifestation of the people's desire for the establishment of a position for absolute victory.

Leaders Assure Koiso

With a powerful development of the national movement being required as a foundation for political efforts for absolute victory in view of the tense war situation, leaders of the various organizations belonging to the Imperial Rule Assistance Association Manhood Corps on Saturday visited Prime Minister General Kuniaki Koiso, President of the Association, and expressed their firm determination to drive through the tense situation. They also asked that the Government carry out powerful policies to this end.

After each of the leaders had presented his opinion, Prime Minister Koiso declared that the Government would endeavor to carry out such powerful policies as they wished and asked that the leaders concentrate all their efforts toward fulfilling their task of defending the nation.

Following their meeting with the Prime Minister, the representatives of the organizations issued a statement in which they pointed out that the way to smash through the tense situation was to concentrate the total national strength under a strong structure built for decisive fighting and to bring about an epochal increase in fighting power.

The representatives stated that they felt more strongly than ever the mission of the national movement, that the Government too expected much of the movement and that it would direct all its power toward conquering the situation, working as one with the people.

OVER 13 B-29's SMASHED IN RAID ON WEST KYUSHU

Blows Dealt Enemy on January 6; Mariana-Based Planes Continue Nuisance Attacks

Japanese Anti-Air Raid Units shot down three B-29 bombers and damaged more than 10 others in counterattacking the formations of 70 to 80 U.S. China-based planes which raided the western part of Kyushu on the morning of January 6, it has later been ascertained.

Although it was not confirmed, a considerable number of those damaged are believed to have been downed.

B-29s Over Tokai Area

A series of three raids by three Mariana-based B-29 bombers were carried out principally over the Tokai area on the night of January 6 and the following morning when they flew over the area near Nagoya and Hamamatsu. After dropping a few incendiary bombs they all fled in a southerly direction.

The first raider appeared at about 7:40 p.m. on January 6, the second at 12:30 a.m. and the third at 5:25 a.m. the next day.

MOP-UP RESULTS REVEALED

Domei

SHIHMEN, January 6.—In effective mopping-up operations against bandit forces active in the fields and mountains in the western and central sections of Hopeh Province, Japanese Forces obtained the following war results during the period from March to the end of December last year:

Number of battles fought 53; enemy forces engaged 58,976; enemy installations destroyed 573; enemy dead picked up by our side 2,766; prisoners taken 1,910; war trophies captured—light machine-guns six; rifles 857; rifle bullets 11,810; grenade throwers five; shots for the same four; automatic rifles eight; pistols 456; ammunition for same 893; bayonets 76; hand-grenades 3,094; mines 373; dumdum bullets 450; cartridge belts and cases 440; canons 425.

U.S. FLEET BLASTING LINGAYEN BAY AREA; MOVE CONVOY FORCE

Japanese Planes Smash 32 Enemy Ships Between January 3-6, Says I.H.Q.

The enemy warships, appearing to the west of Luzon Island under the protecting of a task force, entered Lingayen Bay and are now bombarding the coastal area, it was announced by the Imperial Headquarters at 5:10 p.m. Sunday.

Powerful enemy convoys also are now moving westward in the waters south of Mindoro Island and in the Mindanao Sea, the communique also revealed.

Units of the Imperial Japanese Air Force which are now attacking the enemy fleet, on and after January 3, have blasted a total of 32 enemy warships, including six aircraft carriers, one battleship, four battleships or cruisers, one destroyer, one cruiser, one large warship of unknown category and 18 transports sunk or damaged up to the evening of January 6, the communique added.

The communique follows:

IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS' COMMUNIQUE
5:10 p.m., January 7

"1. The enemy warships that appeared in the waters west of Luzon Island under the protection of a task force entered Lingayen Bay on the morning of January 6 and are now bombarding the coast of the said bay.

"2. Powerful enemy convoys also are now advancing westward in the waters south of Mindoro Island as well as in the Mindanao Sea.

"3. Our Air Forces made continuous attacks on the foregoing enemy warships on and after January 3.

"War results known up to the evening of January 6 follow; (Those previously announced included.)

Instantaneously sunk:
- 3 aircraft carriers
- 1 battleship
- 2 battleships or cruisers
- 1 cruiser

Sunk:
- 16 transports

Damaged:
- 3 aircraft carriers
- 2 battleships or cruisers
- 1 large warship of unidentified category
- 1 destroyer
- 2 transports."

Enemy Convoys Pounded

Strongly protected by a task force with about 10 converted aircraft carriers as the mainstay, an enemy convoy consisting of about 70 to 80 large landing barges which had been plying in the waters west of Luzon Island entered Lingayen Bay on the morning of January 6 when the enemy fleet, at about 11 a.m. the same morning, bombarded the coastal area.

Apparently, the enemy is planning to land troops in the vicinity of San Fernando.

Counterattacking the enemy fleet and convoy, Wild Eagles of the Japanese Forces are now launching vigorous attacks and numerous enemy war vessels can be observed burning in the bay.

Meanwhile, Imperial Forces in the Philippine area have already completed their counterattacking position and are now ready to crush the enemy forces.

As revealed by the Imperial Headquarters, a brilliant war result has been achieved by the Japanese who sank or damaged a total of 32 enemy warships in the Mindoro, Mindanao and Lingayen areas up to January 6.

The troops aboard the enemy convoy that forced its way into the Lingayen Bay numbered about one division strong. Another enemy convoy, which is now steaming in the waters south of Mindoro Island is composed of about 150 transports, while another small convoy is advancing westward in the Mindanao Sea.

Cabinet Advisers Meet

A meeting of the Cabinet advisers took place at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday at the Prime Minister's official residence and a report on the recent war situation was made by Major General Arisue. The meeting ended at 4 p.m.

Soviet Envoy for Athens

Domei

LISBON, January 4.—Mikhail Sergheyev, former Soviet Charge d'Affaires in Athens, has been nominated the new Soviet Ambassador to Greece and will arrive in Athens shortly, according to an Athens dispatch.

REFUGEES DESCRIBE SITUATION IN POLAND

Lublin Committee Not Popular With People, Opposed to Soviet Union

Information on conditions in East Poland which is under the occupation of the Red Army can be obtained only through Poles who have escaped into Sweden.

The following story about East Poland has been pieced together out of fragmentary reports brought by the refugees who, finding the conditions in occupied Poland hard to bear, have recently fled into Sweden.

The inhabitants of East Poland, on the whole, are favorably inclined toward the Soviet troops which have entered their territory. They hold, however, strong hatred for both the secret organizations which are operating among them and all the Leftist Poles who are on the side of these organizations. They also distrust the Lublin Committee which has sunk low in their estimation. Their attitude toward the Committee was illustrated by the objection raised by them to the proposals of the Committee to reform the agricultural structure of occupied Poland. So strong was their opposition that the Committee had to abandon all hope of realizing the project. Their feelings toward the Committee were also expressed by acts of violence committed by the people against the individual members of the Committee.

It is a matter of small wonder that the authorities of the Soviet Union, according to reports, should have thought it fit to place the whole of that portion of Poland occupied by the Red Army, under martial law a short time ago.

There is little room for doubt that the chief reason for this unsatisfactory state of affairs in Soviet occupied Poland is the instinctive distrust of the Polish people for the Soviet Union.

In the meantime, much change has taken place in the Refugee Polish Government in London. On November 29 a Cabinet headed by Arciszewski took office. Arciszewski who had remained in Poland under German occupation since 1939, is a Socialist. He has filled the Presidency of the Conseil de L'union National, a secret organization. In July 1944 when he felt that he was wanted by the German authorities, he managed to escape to London. He is an ardent upholder of democracy as it is conceived in western Europe, and an extreme hater of totalitarianism whether in the form of Fascism or Bolshevism.

It is little wonder that he is reported to be making an unfavorable impression on the Soviet Union. In the Arciszewski Cabinet the Polish Agricultural Party in London is not represented. This organization, for reasons known only to itself, elected not to participate in the new regime.

It is reported that Arciszewski has among his Cabinet members Sobolewski, Lkou'cz, and Tangult, who were members of the Mikolajczyk Cabinet and are workers in the movement of resistance against Germany. Opolski, one of the leaders of the Agricultural Party, has been admitted to the Cabinet, a circumstance that may justify Arciszewski to count on the support of the Agricultural Party in Poland.

A look at the organization of the Arciszewski Cabinet will reveal that the organizations working against Germany in Poland and the mass of the Polish people may find themselves enthusiastically assisting the Cabinet.

Arciszewski made a radio address to the Polish people on December 7 in which he stressed the fact that he is endeavoring to work as closely as possible with the Soviet Union and that furthermore his regime is trying to forge close ties of cooperation with the Germany-resistance organizations in Poland.

Reports show that Arciszewski is seriously opposed to the Lublin Committee which is not popular with the Polish people, and is considering the opening of negotiations for an agreement with the Soviet Union with the support of the Germany-resistance organizations in Poland which have much influence among the inhabitants.

In this connection, the French Government has sent Captain Christian Fyouchet, a former secretary at the French Embassy in the Soviet Union, to the Lublin Committee. The Committee, for its part, has sent Jendrychowski to the French Government, according to an Exchange dispatch of December 27 from Moscow.

The publicity authorities of the French Government have issued a statement about the exchange of representatives between France and the Lublin Committee. The statement, according to a Reuter dispatch of December 21 from Paris, said that the purpose of sending Fyouchet to Lublin was to have him deal with the interests of several thousand French war prisoners delivered from the German forces and now under the jurisdiction of the Lublin Committee.

It was stressed that the dispatch of Fyouchet to Lublin did not mean that France had recognized the Lublin Committee as the Government of Poland. The relations of France with the Refugee Polish Government in London, the statement concluded, would remain unchanged.

An Exchange dispatch of December 27 from Moscow indicated that Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia might send representatives to Lublin early in January.

Yanks on Leyte Give Up Without a Struggle When Nippon Troops Make Bayonet Charges

Bayonet-charges into the enemy position at Tacloban were described by Captain Kishi and Sub-Lieutenant Kawagishi, who had been wounded in one of these attacks, upon their return to a certain harbor, on Thursday, aboard a hospital ship, the Yomiuri-Hochi reports.

Regretting their untimely return to Japan because of their wounds at a time when their comrades are engaged in life and death struggles on the Leyte front, Captain Kishi and Sub-Lieutenant Kawagishi described the bayonet-attacks being carried out in Leyte Island by the Japanese Forces. They said:

"A bayonet-charge on the Leyte Front is usually conducted at night by a unit composed of three men. In anticipation of Japanese bayonet attacks, the enemy set up barbed-wire entanglements, and microphones around their position. As soon as they learn of the approach of the Japanese, they concentrate machine-gun fire on the attackers. At first, many of the Japanese were hit by enemy gunfire, but later they chose rainy or windy nights so as to minimize their sacrifices.

"Once the Japanese break through the wire entanglements, it is easy to charge into the enemy position, and when they hurl hand-grenades and charge with fixed bayonets, the enemy surrenders without fight. Sometimes, two or three units make concerted attacks. Some of our comrades once completed a round-trip of eight "ri" overnight starting from Dagami for Dulag where the enemy position was situated and successfully blasted the supply dumps there."

DR. GOEBBELS PRAISES HIGH GERMAN MORALE

Avers People Accomplished Renaissance Within Three Hard Months

Domei

BERLIN, January 5.—Dealing with the developments of the last few months Reich Propaganda Minister Dr. Joseph Goebbels in his latest contribution to Das Reich writes that the turn in favor of Germany must be attributed, above all, to the strength and insight of the German people. Germany experienced a renaissance within three hard months. This is looked upon today by the world partly with unreserved admiration and partly with surprised horror. The German morale, the Minister says, is the prerequisite for all measures in the field of technique and organization which have already led to certain successes and which in the end will lead to final success.

"In the hour of the greatest ordeal," Dr. Goebbels writes, "Germany possessed a leader who faithfully and unflinchingly stuck to his historical aim in order to achieve what he regarded as the mission imposed on him by Providence, and to which he devoted all his strength, his will, his imagination and his genius. Behind him stood his collaborators who—unquestioningly devoted to his personality and his work—were willing to create the prerequisites necessary for the coming large-scale measures for the regeneration of the Reich's military strength. This alone would not have sufficed unless the German people stood behind their Fuehrer.

"We have a home front worthy of the fighting front and a fighting front worthy of the home front. Here lies the basis of our renaissance. The careless confidence of the enemy camp served our plans. There was no reason for the Fuehrer to speak to the public at the moment London and Washington asked him to when they interpreted his silence as a sign of weakness and illness."

"The German command has to put its people to a hard test in every respect, but the German people proved themselves worthy of the confidence which was thus placed in them. No complaints were voiced. He who is graced to have a part in the leadership of this people must feel that service to the country is a service to God.

"The world may resist us tooth and nail, but one of these days it will find it impossible to deny us its admiration. What gives the others superiority over us is their abundance in material. What is making us superior over them is our national character and our movement. We have not got over this yet, but we are beginning to climb up. The enemy will come to feel that. He triumphed too early and has made the fatal mistake of placing the cards open on the table at a moment when we are most on our guard.

"The plans of destroying the Reich which the enemy published at a stage of the war when he in his blindness believed that all was ended and we were helplessly lying on the ground, are carried by every German at the front and at home in his baggage as his catechism of war. We may lose all our properties and belongings and even our lives, but never shall we lose the knowledge of the deadly danger in which we shall find ourselves if we set our hopes in anything else but ideas and weapons.

"Our war potential must be fully exploited. Measures for this purpose are under way although as little as possible is said about it. Many worries are still in store for us. Mountains of difficulties must still be overcome. Let us not repeat the mistakes of our enemies for which they are paying so dearly today, namely, that of underrating the enemy. We know him, but we also know how to defeat him!"

COORDINATION IS LACKING AMONG ANTI-AXIS NATIONS

U.S., Britain and Soviet Union At Loggerheads Over Issue Anent 'Freed' Countries

The cooperation between the United States, Britain and the Soviet Union proceeded without any serious hitch so long as the three Powers were concentrating their efforts on beating Germany, their common objective. This was the main reason why the Teheran Conference, where the anti-German front was coordinated, was hailed as a success in the anti-Axis countries, but when the countries under German occupation became "liberated," and when the military situation marked a definite stage, there appeared indications of the three-Power cooperation breaking down, according to information received here.

The United States, Britain and the Soviet Union are now at loggerheads with each other, so to speak, on the questions of Greece, Italy, Poland and on other matters. In regard to the scheme of postwar settlement in general, and of the German and Mediterranean questions in particular, the three Powers are endeavoring to outmaneuver each other.

In this connection, Walter Lippmann, noted American commentator, deplored the wrangling proceeding among the anti-Axis, at a time when every effort, as he asserted, should be directed to frustrate the German counterattack, while Bernard Crew, another commentator, wrote in the same strain, stating that there are circumstances in the three countries creating difficulties for the prosecution of the war. In this connection, he noticed the revival of party conflict of the old type in Britain. But what is most apprehensive from an international point of view, he declared, is the development of rivalry between the three Powers regarding the treatment of France, Belgium, Holland and other countries.

It is believed that the Soviet Union is planning the formation of a bloc under the Soviet leadership, with not only France but Germany won over to its own side. Assuming that there is a strong possibility of Germany going Bolshevik, as this nearly happened after the First World War, the Soviet Union is exercising caution not to incur unnecessary enmity of the Germans.

In contrast to its strong attitude on the Mediterranean question, the Soviet attitude to Germany is not so "aggressive" as might be supposed. The Soviet authorities did not care to march on to Berlin at the head of the anti-Axis forces when the German Army was withdrawing to the Reich frontiers. In the present German offensive on the Western Front, the Soviet Union does not appear to be undertaking an extra burden to divert the same offensive. The present conditions in Italy, Greece, Belgium and elsewhere sufficiently indicate the extent of Soviet influence. The Soviet Union wants to make use of the French workers in Germany.

Soviet Aiding France

As regards France, the policy of the Soviet Union is to strengthen the De Gaulle regime, while assuring the position of a great Power to France and this has been verified by the recent conclusion of the Franco-Soviet Treaty of Alliance and Mutual Aid with a secret protocol. The French Parliament unanimously adopted the general mobilization bill proposed by the De Gaulle Government and this will strengthen the Franco-Soviet Alliance vis-a-vis the Anglo-Americans.

In face of the diplomatic offensive of the Soviet Union, the United States is assuming an air of indifference, maintaining that the aim of the Franco-Soviet Alliance is to organize mutual assistance between Powers represented at the Dumbarton Oaks Conference, but there is no denying that distrust of the Soviet Union is increasing in the United States. This may be seen from the United States attitude on the problem of restoring the "devastated" countries. Under cover of assistance to these countries, the United States is increasing Lend-Lease supplies, while planning to apply a New Deal to Europe.

The five points of the American policy recently announced by Edward Stettinius, Secretary of State, the visit of Herbert Lehman, chairman of the UNRRA, with the mission to turn the Iberian Peninsula into the supply base for the Americans by applying the Lend-Lease Act also to Spain and Portugal; and the controversy over the Atlantic Charter are problems confronting the anti-Axis. In an article contributed to the Sunday Times, Lippmann wrote on the same lines, declaring that a new conference of the "Big Three" is not opportune, considering the present situation of the "liberated" countries.

Confronted with the diplomatic offensive of the Soviet Union and the United States, Britain stands on the defensive. The Franco-Soviet Alliance is being held up by the British press as a pillar of European peace in an effort to disguise the deterioration of the British position. In regard to an Anglo-French Alliance proposed by Prime Minister Winston Churchill during his recent visit to France, President General Charles de Gaulle of the Provisional Government of France, adopted delaying tactics, dissatisfied with the British treatment of France. The British proposal to the United States for the establishment of Political General Staff, the visit of Richard Law, British State Minister, to the United States in connection with the proposal, and the adjustment of Anglo-American differences, all these moves on the part of Britain are understood to have a point directed against the Soviet Union. Impressed by the conclusion of the Franco-Soviet Alliance, the British public are demanding an Anglo-French alliance as an application of the British balance of power policy.

4TH YEAR OF WAR FINDS STRUGGLE EVER INTENSE

Most Decisive Battle Going on On Leyte; Enemy Air Raids On Japan Now Frequent

Japan is engaged in the fourth year of war for the annihilation of America and Britain at a time when the death-struggle centering in the Philippines, already so severe, is growing in severity as the days pass, and when the enemy's attack upon Japan with B-29 planes is becoming more and more frequent.

From the historical point of view the past year has been a year of a struggle of great importance. In the air and on land and sea the valiant Japanese officers and men engaged in one death-struggle after another, have with their own life-blood achieved results illuming the pages of the world annals of warfare. In spite of their efforts, however, the general war situation gradually began to develop unfavorably for us.

We are now entering upon that stage of the war wherein the truly decisive battle will be fought. It was during this year that our officers and men met a glorious end in action against the enemy on the Marshalls and the Marianas.

It was also this year that a corner of our land of Japan was soiled by mud from the boots of the hateful enemy. This year also brought the first sight of the enemy's land-based air force over the skies of Japan.

Japanese Smash Enemy

It was this year also that the Japanese Forces achieved a feat which will be remembered for ages to come—that of sinking or damaging the greater part of the aircraft carriers which formed the nucleus of the enemy's task force off Taiwan and on the sea east of the Philippines.

It was this year, too, that the Kamikaze Special Attack Corps sprang into existence—a corps which definitely assures the destruction of enemy vessels by the self-blasting method used by these heroic pilots who hurl their planes loaded with explosives against the enemy ships.

In the meantime, the enemy's supply line was extended from the Gilbert Islands to the Marshalls, the Marianas, the Palau Group and finally to the Philippines.

A look at the present situation which has grown out of these moves, makes it impossible for us not to feel an overwhelming sense of rage against the enemy and a renewal of our firm determination not to stop until the enemy has been brought to his knees.

The last year has been a year of the most bitter struggle in world history. The past year has witnessed events which make it easy for us to expect that the fourth year of the War of Greater East Asia will be crowded with battles even fiercer than those we are witnessing today, battles which will decide the final issue of the war.

Sure of Victory

We must firmly determine that the fourth year of this war shall be a year when, after overcoming the problem of meeting the wear and tear of warfare, we will take the offensive and challenge the enemy to a decisive battle from which we shall surely come forth victorious.

The main developments of the war situation witnessed during the past year, are given below in the hope that they may help one to form some idea of what to expect in the days to come.

With the enemy effecting a landing on Mono Island on October 27 last year, began the enemy's general counteroffensive in the Pacific. Presently, he extended his operations to the regions of the Central Pacific area.

In the period from the closing days of the second year of the War of Greater East Asia till the beginning of the third year the Pacific War situation entered upon a phase wherein the struggle began to assume the aspects of a big-scale war of attrition.

In the area around Bougainville Island a series of six battles started on October 27 and ended on December 3 with the Sixth Aerial Battle Off Bougainville Island. In these battles the Japanese Forces sank instantaneously or otherwise, eight enemy aircraft carriers and damaged three, and sank instantaneously or otherwise and damaged a total of 93 or 94 enemy vessels, and shot down 576 planes.

Enemy Losses Mount

In the Central Pacific area the Japanese Forces sank instantaneously eight and damaged five aircraft carriers, and sank instantaneously or otherwise and damaged a total of 26 enemy vessels, and shot down 145 planes during a period of 17 days between November 19 last year when the First Aerial Battle Off the Gilberts began and December 5 which witnessed the Aerial Battle Off the Marshall Group. These were truly remarkable results, but the general war situation was not favorable for us.

In the areas of the Solomons the enemy advanced his base from Rendova to New Georgia, then to Kulambangra Vela Lavella, and finally to Bougainville.

In the Central Pacific area the enemy captured the Gilbert Islands. Thus, the beginning of the third year of the war found him watching for an opportunity to make a further thrust.

On December 15 on the Solomons front the enemy on New Britain advanced to Cape Merkus which is contiguous to Rabaul. This enabled the enemy to complete a strategic line connecting with the area of New Guinea. Thus, he was in a position to exert pressure on Rabaul from two directions, that is from the areas of the Solomons and New Guinea.

This development encouraged the enemy to think of striking at the foundations of the Japanese strategic structure in the Pacific by concerting action with the forces he maintained in the Central Pacific area.

Rabaul Defenders Fight

The Japanese Air Unit in Rabaul, the largest and most powerful air base in this area, was quick to meet the enemy. At the hands of the Japanese airmen the enemy lost more than 100 vessels, tens of thousands of troops, and several thousand planes. Thus, the enemy had to pay an extremely high price for his advance from island to island.

Naturally, the enemy lost no time in planning the destruction of the Japanese base at Rabaul. On December 26 the enemy landed at Cape Gloucester on the north coast of New Britain, and from there he carried out on Rabaul the severest attack yet known. The attack continued into this year.

In the area of Cape Merkus alone the Japanese Forces sank or damaged 49 or 50 enemy vessels and sank or damaged innumerable landing barges during the period between December 15 and 31. This was, indeed, a great achievement and incidentally shows how bitter the struggle was.

In the meantime, the enemy concentrated a large part of his attention upon Rabaul. The enemy planes that visited the Japanese base during half a month numbered 519 of which the Japanese shot down 182.

With the beginning of this year the visits of the enemy on Rabaul became more and more frequent. A total of 2,488 planes visited the Japanese base between January 1 and 28. Of that number 740 or nearly 30 per cent fell prey to the Japanese.

The first of January witnessed a further increase in the raids of the enemy on Rabaul. A total of 2,121 enemy planes visited Rabaul during the period of five days between February 10 and 14.

Air Force Active

Needless to say, the Japanese Air Unit based at Rabaul divided its attention between meeting the attacks of the enemy on the base and making fiercer attacks on enemy vessels and bases.

From the latter part of January the enemy commenced operations for the invasion of the Marshall Islands in the Central Pacific area.

In the area of New Guinea the enemy landed at Cape Gumbi on January 2, and from that time began to advance toward the northwest.

On the other hand, the enemy built a powerful base on Admiralty Island north of New Britain, and set about to cut off Rabaul and Kavieng from the rear. As a result, the center of the war situation began to shift to the Central Pacific and New Guinea areas around February or March.

After retaking the Gilbert Islands, Admiral Nimitz, Commander-in-Chief of the United States Pacific Fleet, caused the air force under his command to make severer attacks in the area of the inner South Seas.

Suddenly on the morning of January 30, the enemy with a powerful task force centering about aircraft carriers made a thrust in the sea area around the Marshall Islands.

February 1 witnessed the enemy landing on the Kuezyerin lagoon and on the islands of Kuezyerin and Ruot.

It was the intention of Nimitz to concert action with General MacArthur, Commander-in-Chief of the Anti-Axis Forces in the Southwest Pacific, who was leading an offensive, in advancing into the Central Pacific area with the object of effecting bombing attacks on the Japanese mainland and of intercepting the supply route between the Japanese mainland and the Southern Regions.

The enemy relied on the strength of the material resources at his command to carry him through this project. He wished to defeat Japan before she had time to extend her fighting power. He was determined to make every sacrifice in order to achieve the end he had in mind.

Three things became evident which shed light on the sort of strategy the enemy intended to use in his proposed operations against the Japanese mainland.

In the first place, with each operation conducted by the enemy there was a marked increase in the strength employed by him and in the violence of the attacks carried out by his air force.

Secondly, the advance of the enemy increased in speed. Thirdly, the enemy began to change from his earlier plan of advancing from island to island to that of leaping to convenient islands.

Fighting Power Increases

It became clearly evident that the enemy was well aware of the fact that each day would witness an increase in the fighting power of Japan and tighten the ties binding Japan and the Southern Regions. The thought of this, together with conditions at home, suggested to the enemy that he should force a battle that would for once decide the issues of the war.

As will be seen from the communiques of the Imperial Headquarters, the Japanese officers and men are dealing a heavy blow upon the enemy who is relying upon his material power. Their great endeavors which are heroic beyond description, are, in truth, death-struggles. The blood which they shed means the much-needed time for Japan.

While our officers and men are thus shedding their blood, the people behind the guns are concentrating upon the increasing of production on the home front. Every day sees a greater increase in production. This means that there is a rapid increase in the power which is needed by Japan for the big offensive she will carry out in the days to come.

The people behind the guns were profoundly moved by the fact that the 4,500 officers and men guarding the islands of Kuezyerin and Ruot and the 2,000 civilians in the fighting services were killed in action during the final charge made against the enemy who landed on the islands on February 6 in spite of the considerable damage inflicted upon him. This heroic stand of the people on Kuezyerin and Ruot spurred the people on the home front to greater efforts in the extension of the production of munitions.

The time thus gained by Japan began to prove effective in the Aerial Battle Off Taiwan which followed.

Enemy Intensifies Attacks

The enemy was interested in preventing Japan from gaining the time needed by her. Thus within less than a month of the occupation of Marshall Islands he sent a powerful task force to the waters of the Truk, Mariana, Caroline and Ogasawara group of islands. Bringing its guns into full play against these islands, this task force made repeated air-raids. It also attacked Japanese land-based air units with the object of cutting into the bases from which the Japanese were working.

Eventually, the enemy effected a landing on Saipan Island on June 15. On July 21, he landed on Omiyajima and on July 23 on Tinian Island. Giving battle to the numerically-superior enemy, the Japanese units on these islands met a glorious death after inflicting heavy losses upon the enemy.

On Saipan and Tinian Islands the Japanese residents cooperated in the operations against the enemy and shared the fate of the officers and men.

In March Fleet Admiral Mineichi Koga, then Admiral, met death on a plane while performing his duty.

The war situation now began to increase in severity each day.

As soon as the enemy took possession of the Marianas, he set about constructing bases there. Then he established the 21st bombing squadron with B-29 planes on the islands. It is this squadron which has visited the Japanese mainland repeatedly since November 1.

It was the intention of General MacArthur to advance to the northwest from New Guinea and to retake the Philippines.

Enemy Makes Landing

On January 2, the enemy landed at Cape Gumbi. Subsequently, he advanced to Hollandia, Eitape, Wakde, Wiak, Noemfor, and Futagojima. On September 15, he landed on Morotai Island at the same time the forces under Nimitz landed on Peliliu Island in the Palau group.

With the landing of the enemy on October 20 at Tacloban on Leyte Island, the enemy's war against Japan began to wear a new visage. The island to island strategy of the enemy now changed to that of engaging Japan in a decisive battle.

No comparison can be found to the bitter fighting which is now going on in the area centering around Leyte Island. Into the fight which is going on in the air, on land and sea, both sides have thrown all their available forces. Some idea of the importance of this battle may be gained from the fact that the Kamikaze Special Attack Corps with its sure-hit tactics, is participating in it.

The Aerial Battle Off Taiwan which started on October 12, led to the present situation which finds Japan engaged with the enemy in the bitterest struggle in world history.

On October 10 an enemy task force came to attack the southwestern islands of the Japanese Empire. On the following day it appeared on the sea east of Taiwan. From October 12th till the morning of the 14th it bombed various places in Taiwan.

It became clearly apparent that the enemy's motive was three-fold, namely, to intercept the supply route between Japan and the Southern Regions, to decrease the aerial power of Japan, and to strike a telling blow in an effort to retake the Philippines.

The results achieved by the Japanese Forces in the Aerial Battle Off Taiwan, in the Naval Battle Off the Philippines which started on October 24, and in the sea and aerial fights which subsequently took place in and around Leyte Gulf, were far more brilliant than any ever scored in world history.

U.S. Fleet Crushed

In these battles the Third Fleet under Admiral William Halsey and the 58th task force under Vice-Admiral Marc Mitscher were crushed, and a decisive blow was dealt their much-vaunted aircraft carriers.

The Fifth Fleet under Admiral Raymond Spruance, Commander-in-Chief in the Central Pacific, was also heavily damaged. Moreover, one-half of the Nimitz forces bent on invading Japan, was crushed.

In addition, the Seventh Fleet under Vice-Admiral Thomas Kinkaid, one of the trusted lieutenants of MacArthur, was damaged in operations off Leyte Island.

The enemy then boasted of having organized a new task force. This fleet is now being pounded by the Japanese Air Force on the sea east of the Philippines.

The Aerial Battle off Taiwan is important for three reasons:

Firstly, in this battle the enemy lost a large number of aircraft carriers. Secondly, the battle gave the Japanese Forces an opportunity to turn the tables against the enemy. In the third place, the battle increased the confidence of the Japanese people in their ability to prosecute the war to a thoroughly satisfactory end.

It is only when the spirits of the officers and men at the front and the people behind the guns are at the highest that they can be more than equal to the task of defeating the enemy.

Home Front Impressed

The results of the Aerial Battle off Taiwan and those that followed, combined with the achievements of the Special Attack Corps, had the effect of arousing the people behind the guns to the greatest determination not to stop until the purpose of their country in this war has been completely realized. As long as the people behind the guns are in this frame of mind, all problems concerning the prosecution of the war to a conclusively victorious end, will solve themselves.

The spirit of the Special Attack Corps is now the spirit of the people behind the guns. There is every reason for us to come off victorious in the battle which is now going on in the area centering on Leyte Island—a battle which the enemy has thrown a strength of seven divisions—and a battle which will definitely decide the fate of the War of Greater East Asia.

Sugiyama at Ise Shrines

War Minister Field Marshal Gen Sugiyama arrived at Ujiyamada Friday morning and proceeded to the Grand Shrines of Ise where he paid homage. He left Ujiyamada shortly before noon for Nagoya where he visited the Atsuta Shrine and then inspected various factories. He returned to Tokyo the same afternoon

16 Enemy Destroyers Sunk

Domei

FUEHRER'S HEADQUARTERS, January 4.—The German Navy during December sank 163,000 tons of enemy shipping as well as 16 destroyers and escort vessels.

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TOKYO PAPERS EXPRESS WILL TO WIN THIS YEAR

Tokyo Shimbun Urges People To Make 1945 Most Glorious In Nation's History

Determination to make the year 1945 the closing year for the current global war and ultimate victory of the Axis nations in both Asia and Europe was expressed in the New Year editorial messages by the leading dailies in Tokyo. The papers point out that although the Americans have been declaring that they would celebrate Christmas in Manila, their forces have met disastrous defeats at the hands of the Japanese Forces in the Philippine area and that with the counterattacks undertaken by the Rundstedt army on the Western Front, the war has become a protracted affair, with 1945 proving a year of ultimate defeat for the enemy and the year of the greatest importance in the history of mankind.

The Asahi observes that the fighting morale of the 100,000,000 people of Japan on both the fighting and home fronts has never been so high as at present, indicating their irrevocable resolve to uphold their great tradition by risking their very lives to crush the arrogant and inhuman enemy. After explaining the essential nature of modern total war and that the war in East Asia is a struggle for East Asian emancipation, the paper continues to say: "What is deplorable at present is that the 1,000,000,000 peoples of Greater East Asia cannot be marshalled into a great army under the one banner of racial emancipation. The Indian people have no military weapons to use against their oppressors and are forced to submit to their might; while Chungking is taking up arms against its Asiatic brethren as a vanguard of the Anglo-American enemies. India should be saved and Chungking should be crushed to dust so long as it remains a traitor to Asia. Ideological cannon balls should be directed against Chungking's spirit and motive power of opposition to the rest of the Asiatic peoples. Attacks on Chungking's mistaken doctrine of racial determination should commence at once."

Declaring that "Japan entered the new year of the 2,605th year of the foundation of the Japanese Empire with the highest fighting spirit in her history, and Germany welcomed 1945 as the beginning of her great offensives," the Mainichi replies to the enemy's self-complacent optimism on the future of the war. The paper continues: "A survey of conditions in the enemy's camp reveals that they passed the old year in great disappointment. The enemy had proclaimed that 1943 and 1944 were to be the years of general offensive for their armies and that would bring the war to a successful close by the end of 1944. Realizing this miscalculation, the enemy could not but reveal their frantic state of mind.

"At the same time the enemy has undoubtedly resolved to make 1945 the final year of the war. It is necessary that this point should always be remembered by our nation. So long as the enemy wishes to make 1945 the final year, we should also be prepared for this and win final victory during this year. Thus, our wartime structure should be strengthened to the fullest possible extent. The Government should display its political power as efficiently as it can, and our people should show their virtues as a victorious nation."

The Yomiuri-Hochi welcomes the new year as "a year for deciding all" for our final victory. After dwelling on the latest progress of the War in East Asia and Europe, the journal declares that the latest war developments indicate the deadlock reached by the enemy in their attempt to oppose the spiritual power of Japan and Germany with material power. Explaining the present anguish for Anglo-American war leaders, the journal points out that it was a great delusion for the Anglo-American enemies to believe that they could succeed in sending their expeditions to the battle fields of Asia and Europe at the same time. "The difficulties faced by the arrogant United States," the paper continues, "are clearly indicated in the disposition of her manpower and material resources. During the new year the world will undergo a great and unprecedented transformation in the battle grounds of Asia and Europe."

The Tokyo Shimbun urges that the nation should resolve to direct its whole energy toward complete victory in the production and supply war at the beginning of the new year. Declaring that 1945 will be the decisive year for both Asia and Europe, the journal exhorts the people to elevate their fighting morale to crush the enemy shoulder to shoulder with Germany in order to secure final triumph. The journal advises the Government to grasp the will of the people respecting this matter and concentrate all of its political forces to convey it to the battle front. The journal describes the existing war situation as extremely grave but declares that the only way for victory is to establish a solid nation of united people that could advance toward the realization of their national aspirations. "It is a great opportunity for us," the paper continues, "That the enemy has been showing a high degree of recklessness in conducting the war. It is up to the 100,000,000 people of Japan to make the Philippine operations the Battle of Mount Tenno and make the year 1945 the year of decisive victory and the most glorious year in our national history."

) AID CHILDREN EVACU.

Governor Nishio Heads Association Established on Saturday

Tokyo Metropolitan Evacuee School Children Relief Association has been organized to assist in matters of education and living conditions of about 200,000 Metropolitan school children dispersed in the hinterlands. The inaugural meeting of the Association took place at noon on Saturday at the Aoi Kaikan, Sendagaya, Shibuya-ku.

The Association will act as a connecting body between the guardians and various organizations as well as the evacuee children and will also handle the work of supplying the children with school texts, newspapers, magazines, clothing, bedding, food and other needed articles. Aside from the above undertakings, the Association will also sponsor touring movie shows, exhibits, dramatic performances and other entertainments.

General Toshizo Nishio of Tokyo Metropolis will assume the presidency of the Association. The working funds of the Association will be about ¥5,000,000, including ¥500,000 subsidy from the Metropolis. The membership will include many organizations in Tokyo as well as individuals.

BURMESE ARMY INSPIRED BY KAMIKAZE WAR SPIRIT

Aung San Stresses Burma's Resolve to Defend Asia's Western Gateway

Domei

RANGOON, January 6.—Highly inspired by the "Kamikaze" spirit of the Japanese Forces in Burma and the Philippine theater of war, officers and men of the Burmese Army are more than ever united and determined to emulate their gallant comrades who are willingly sacrificing their lives in order to drive out the enemy from this part of the globe, declared Major General Aung San, Burmese War Minister, at a press conference held recently.

He added that the western gateway to East Asia will be defended to the last drop of blood by Burma's Army—"the very sword" of the country—which is ready to be used to slash all enemy attempts to retake Burma. He said that the Burmese Army is unflinchingly resolved to live up to the high ideals of participating with Japan in the great task of building a New Order in East Asia free from Anglo-American influence.

The present Burmese Army, which is the successor to the Burmese Independent Army which fought so gallantly to bring about Burma's independence at the time when the Japanese Forces marched into Burma, has been expanded as to quality and quantity, the Burmese War Minister stated.

He added that this arm of Burma's, though small in number, is compared with the first-rate army of world Powers, equipped and trained as an army capable to conduct modern warfare and now confidently waiting the opportune moment to crush all intruders which attempt to redominate this country.

Paying high tribute to the death-defying spirit of the Japanese Special Attack Corps, Major General Aung San declared that the Japanese Air Forces injected renewed vigor and patriotic fervor into the officers and men of the Burmese Army as well as the 16,000,000 people on the home front.

STEEL OUTPUT INCREASES

Huge Gain Shown by Japan Iron Manufacturing Co. in 1944

The output of the Japan Iron Manufacturing Company is showing a rapid increase, which is most notable in the production of special steels which are necessary for the manufacture of aircraft.

The output of these steels in last December was six per cent greater than that in November which was the largest in the history of the company. It was 14 times as great as the amount produced in the year that witnessed the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia.

Ministry Opening New Office

The Transportation and Communications Ministry has decided to establish an office in the city of Miyazaki. The office will be concerned with the management of transportation and communication affairs in Miyazaki Prefecture which have grown in importance of late. The opening ceremony of the office will take place on January 11.

AMAZING HEALING POWER OF PENICILLIN STRESSED

New Drug Used to Cure Infectious Diseases; Plays Vital Role in War

During the last few months, various sensational reports have appeared in the press about a new drug called penicillin which is supposed to possess miraculous healing properties. Medical experts say that penicillin will save many lives in the war and even Prime Minister Wnston Churchill claimed in one of his speeches that he had been cured of his sickness by this new drug.

Dr. Hanns Wirtz of Shanghai, who obtained his degree in pharmaceutics at the University of Born, Germany, describes the nature and significance of the new medicament in the following article.

When Robert Koch proved more than 60 years ago that a certain group of diseases now known under the collective name of "infectious diseases" has its cause in the activity of numerous kinds of tiny parasites such as bacteria, protozoa or fungi, he laid the foundation for effective counter-measures. Once an enemy is recognized, it is possible to lay bare his weak points and to construct the necessary weapons. The same applies to the infectious diseases. Starting out from Koch's discovery, several methods for their prevention of cure were developed. At first the greatest success was achieved by the injection of the blood serum from animals that have been inoculated with the respective bacteria or their toxins. Such serums, when introduced into the human body, provide it with the necessary power to resist and combat an infection by virtue of the anti-bodies it contains. In addition to this serum therapy, chemotherapy was evolved, i.e., the treatment of the disease by chemical reagents that have a toxic effect upon the microorganism causing the disease, without seriously harming the patient.

Overwhelming Success

The success of this latter method, the wide employment of which began with Germany's Gerhard Domagk's publication on his experiments with sulfa drugs in 1935, was so overwhelming that it appeared at first as if this was the only promising method of combating such infectious diseases as pneumonia, typhoid, anigina, scarlet fever, or gonorrhea. Hence the experts of the whole world turned their attention to testing and improving the sulfa drugs, with the result that another promising discovery in this field lay fallow for many years.

In 1928 Dr. Alexander Fleming, Professor of Bacteriology at St. Mary's Hospital Medical School, University of London, was studying the growth and properties of staphylococci, a genus of cocci bacteria most commonly found in boils, abscesses, carbuncles and similar suppurative processes. One day he observed that part of the medium in which he was culturing these staphylococci had been invaded by mold. A few days later, Dr. Fleming noticed that the mold had cleared a wide, bacteria-free area between itself and the staphylococci—perhaps had killed them. Realizing the importance of this phenomenon, he began to devote his attention to it. First, he identified that particular mold as Penicillium notatum, a close relative to the ordinary mold, Penicillium glaucum, that annoys us by its appearance on stale bread, shoes, imperfectly sealed preserves, etc. Dr. Fleming then grew the mold on a liquid medium in glass containers. The mold secreted a substance into the medium which was capable of preventing the growth of disease-producing microorganisms. Dr. Fleming named this by-product penicillin.

Although several similar antibiotics—i.e., antibodies produced by bacteria to stem the growth of their rivals—were known, none had so far been employed successfully in medicine. The reasons for this were their comparative toxicity and the difficulty of producing them.

Fleming therefore examined his penicillin especially for its toxic effect on the animal organism and found that the medium containing penicillin was no more poisonous to animals than the pure medium. Above all, penicillin did not harm the white blood corpuscles, the human organism's chief troops of defense against harmful germs.

Production Methods Studied

After the therapeutic effect of penicillin had been proved by excellent results in the treatment of infected wounds with a liquid containing penicillin, the question of producing it was studied. Although it became possible in 1932 to raise the mold in a synthetic medium, the penicillin itself could not be extracted in a concentrated, stable form without losing its effectiveness. Numerous attempts to overcome this difficulty were unsuccessful. And when in 1935 the sulfa drugs, which combine normal conditions of manufacture with their great effectiveness and comparatively low toxicity, commenced their triumphal march against the infectious diseases, Dr. Fleming and other researchers on penicillin believed that the latter would hardly attain any practical significance as an antiseptic beside the sulfonamides.

With the increasing employment of the sulfonamides, however, it became apparent that, beside the various bacteria they succeed in laying low, there are some germs which are insufficiently or not at all affected. It also turned out that the therapeutic result depends to a large extent on whether the drug can reach the focus of infection in an effective concentration. In cases where the infection has advanced to a stage at which necrosis, phlegmon, or thrombosis has set in, the chances of a cure have proved to be limited.

Hence medical science began to seek for means of closing these gaps. According to the Shanghai Times Week of August 9, 1944, Japanese research workers have been experimenting with penicillin for 10 years. In England Dr. H. W. Florey and Dr. E. B Chain of Oxford's Sir William Dunn School of Pathology resumed the interrupted work with penicillin. With the aid of a large research team, they succeeded in developing a method by which penicillin could be extracted from the culture medium and rid—at least partially—of impurities without destroying its efficacy. Now it became possible to study the bacteriological and pharmacological characteristics of penicillin by means of experiments on animals. The following important facts were established:

(1) Absence of any toxic effects on mice or other animals.

(2) While blood corpuscles and tissue cultures are not harmed by concentrations several hundred times greater than are necessary for preventing the growth of bacteria.

(3) The efficacy is affected neither by blood, pus, nor putrefaction of tissues.

(4) The efficacy is also scarcely affected by the number of bacteria present.

(5) Penicillin is absorbed when injected into muscle or blood stream.

(6) Penicillin is useless when given by mouth as it is destroyed by acid stomach juices.

(7) Penicillin disappears from the blood within two hours, being largely excreted in the urine; hence large doses must be given at short intervals for several days.

Efficacy of Penicillin

The examination of the efficacy of penicillin on the germs of the various infectious diseases showed that penicillin, too, is no panacea against all pathogenic germs. The following bacteria proved to be particularly sensitive to the drug: Streptococcus pyogenes, (suppurating wounds, puerperal fever); Staphylcoccus aureus (diseases of the bone, carbuncles); Streptococcus pneumoniae (pneumonia); Corynebacterium diphtheria (diphtheria); (Clostridium welchii, septicum, oedematiens (gas gangrene); Neisseria gonorrhoeae (gonorrhea); Neisseria meningitidis (meningitis, typhus). Less sensitive were, on the other hand, the germs causing typhoid fever. Wholly resistant those of plague, cholera, dysentery, and tuberculosis.

Penicillin's effectiveness consists in that it prevents the dividing and multiplying of the bacteria affected by it. The drug is, in effect, as the technical term has it, a bacteriostatic, while most antiseptics as, for example, carbolic acid, kill the bacteria directly.

Although the characteristics of penicillin were now known and the experiments on animals had provided good results, the drug was still far from being introduced into general medical practice. Again it was the sensitiveness of this organic substance which, in contrast to the sulfa drugs, placed great obstacles in the way of large-scale manufacture. It took months of work on the part of Dr. Florey's entire team to produce enough penicillin to treat one or two patients. Moreover, the first man treated showed violent by-effects in the form of fits of shivering and rising temperature, which were, however, traced to impurities which it was later possible to remove. Researchers successfully went to work to discover technical methods of production with a sufficient yield, so that today it has become possible to provide pure, concentrated penicillin preparations on a comparatively large and increasing scale. But it is doubtful whether it will ever be possible to cover all requirements by the culture method, as it is very difficult to protect the mold from bacteria in the air whose enzymes tend to destroy it. This problem will hence only be fully solved by the chemical synthesis of penicillin which, although probably possible, has so far not yet been effected.

Before penicillin can be synthesized, its exact chemical composition must be known. However, the difficulties involved in obtaining the absolutely pure secretion of Penicillium notatum (there are at least 100,000 molds and fungi, and there are always spores of some of these molds in the air) have resulted in several formulas for the chemical composition of penicillin having been advanced so far. Some scientists regard it as a peptide of the formula $C_{24}H_{32}N_2O_{12}$; others claim it to be a hydroaromatic compound $C_{24}H_{34}O_{10}N_2$ or $C_{14}H_{19}O_6N$ or $C_{24}H_{36}O_{11}N$; and finally there is one group of scientists who maintain that penicillin is a nitrogenfree compound.

Nor is it possible to determine the weight of the penicillin contained in a given solution without an exact knowledge of the chemical composition, although the exact determination of the penicillin content of such a solution is essential to its therapeutical application. Hence the biological test method has been resorted to. That quantity of penicillin was determined which, dissolved in 50 cc of meat extract, was just able completely to arrest the growth of a specific culture of Staphylococcus aureus. This quantity was named an Oxford unit, or also a Florey or Heatley unit. In view of the rapid secretion of penicillin from the body, vast quantities of these units are needed. In the case of pneumococci infections, for instance, the amount of penicillin needed for a cure is around 100,000 Oxford units, while there have been reports on the curing of serious streptococcus cases which mention the injection of 830,000 to 7,900,000 Oxford units.

According to the latest information, there are seven manufacturers in Great Britain and 21 in America (two Canadian, the rest U.S.) now producing penicillin or soon to be in production. America expects about 200 billion units a month to be produced by the end of the year. The American factories will have a top capacity of nine pounds (almost 7 billion units) a day, compared with a total production last year of about 15 pounds. Prices now vary from $2.85 to $10 for 100,000 units (last year's price: $20).

The small quantities, produced until recently make it obvious that there are not nearly as many reports available on successful treatments as was the case some 10 years ago when the sulfonamides were introduced. Nevertheless, there exists already enough material to permit the conclusion that, in cases where sufficient quantities of penicillin are obtainable, the drug can produce amazing results.

Used at Front

By far the greatest experience has been gained in the treating of war wounds with penicillin. The bacteriologist Florey and the surgeon Cairns of Oxford joined the British troops in North Africa and Italy for three months to make observations on the spot. After some initial failures, they obtained very favorable results. The danger of infection in the case of war wounds was practically eliminated. The best results were achieved by powdering the wounds with a mixture of penicillin and sulfonamide.

Extremely impressive results were attained with penicillin in the treatment of sulfonamide-resistant cases of gonorrhea which, with few exceptions, were cured in two days. Numerous cases of otherwise hopeless staphylococcus infections were also cured with penicillin, among them osteomyletitis (inflammation of the bone marrow), infections of the skin and subcutaneous tissues (furuncles, etc.), and other infections.

In the case of pneumococcus and meningococcus infections, experience has proved favorable but not extensive, as here the excellence of the sulfonamides is undisputed, and there is no reason to employ penicillin for diseases in which simpler methods lead to the same results. The same applies to a large number of other infectious diseases, such as arthritis, infections of the urinary tract, infections of the nose, sinus, ear, ulcers, cellulitis, infections of the hands, burns, etc. Many authors report on excellent results with penicillin in the treatment of these diseases; but at the moment these fields of indication are of no practical significance. For almost the entire present production goes to the armed forces for the treatment of all kinds of wounds, only a small surplus being released for the treatment of civilians. Naturally, this limited quantity is reserved mainly for such cases where other drugs have failed.

Whether penicillin will hold its own beside the proven medicaments used today, or whether it may even replace these, will only become apparent when the medical world can be supplied with unlimited quantities at competitive prices, which is not yet the case. It looks as if penicillin or similar by-products of other microorganisms, such as pyocyanase, tyrothricin, gramicidin, claviformin, patulin, spinulosin, citrinin, gloitoxin, aspergillin, flavicin, clavacin, and actinomycin, may be able to close the gaps left by the sulfonamide therapy. Various reports have already been published according to which most human and animal pathogenic germs can be arrested in their growth by one or the other antibiotic. This is also true of the particularly insensitive acid-resisting bacilli. Indeed, even the tuberculosis bacillus, which is otherwise practically impregnable, has been successfully attacked by preventing its growth, not by penicillin, but by actinomycin, an antibiotic analogous to penicillin but obtained from a different mold.

It would thus appear as if, with the aid of antibiotic and chemotherapeutic substances, practically all infectious diseases will be preventable or curable in future. It is also entirely within the realm of possibility—and this is Florey's opinion too—that an antibiotic will be obtained one day from one of the countless microorganisms which will prove to be the universal cure for all diseases caused by germs.

Perhaps a step in this direction has already been made in Japan, where Professer Dr. Masahiko Kuroya of the Tohoku Imperial University and his assistant Dr. Shikaji Kondo recently announced the discovery of a new type of penicillin with a fungus-growth-prevention power many times greater than that of Dr. Fleming's penicillin.

The XXth Century, Shanghai

2 Anti-Aircraft Battery Units in Celebes Gain Commendation for Brilliant Service

By Y. YAMAZAKI & K. KAWAKAMI
Of the Military Press Corps

JAPANESE BASE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC, January 5.—Japanese anti-aircraft battery units in North Celebes under date of December 26 were commended by the Supreme Commander in the sector for noteworthy war results achieved during the period of three months from the beginning of September, 1944, in frustrating enemy aerial attacks.

The commendation textually reads: "Commendation issued to Special Anti-Aircraft Battery Units and another Anti-Aircraft Unit at an undisclosed airfield.

"The aforementioned units were commissioned since August, 1944, to counterblast enemy aerial attacks at a vital point in North Celebes. Throwing up accurate barrages of fire against overwhelming numbers of enemy raiders, both the anti-aircraft battery units effectively frustrated the enemy aerial attacks. During the period of three months from the beginning of September, 1944, each of the two units achieved respective war results of shooting down the total of 10-odd enemy planes. The remarkable accomplishments are fruits of the spirit of unity which firmly binds the members of both units under their respective commanders and also their indomitable fighting spirit. In acknowledgment of the distinguished services rendered by the two units, a commendation is hereby issued to the two anti-aircraft battery units.

"Dated December 26, 1944. Signed, Supreme Commander in this sector."

47 PATRIOTIC ARTISTS LAUDED FOR WAR WORK

Thanked by Munitions Minister For Holding Art Exhibits at Production Plants

Munitions Minister Shigeru Yoshida issued, on January 6, a statement of thanks to the group of 47 painters which, under the direction of Goro Tsuruta, former member of the Hanging Committee of the Imperial Art Academy, has been visiting coal mines and aircraft factories throughout the country to comfort the workers there by holding art exhibitions.

The artists found time to produce pictures while performing the task of providing entertainment for those engaged in war production. Thirty of these pictures, all of them large ones, will be on show at the Mitsukoshi Department Store, Nihonbashi, until January 20.

To Aid War Plants

Special Workers' Corps have been organized under the direction of the Munitions Ministry, assisted by the Japan Federation of Industries, and they will be sent to aircraft and other vital war factories which have been hit during enemy air raids. These special corps will help in the reconstruction and production work and will be dispatched when and whenever the necessity arises.

The inaugural ceremonies of the first of the Special Workers' Corps was held at the Munitions Ministry on December 5 and were immediately dispatched to a certain aircraft and a manufacturing company. In this group were workers, selected for their high character and technical superiority, from nine of the leading machine-tool manufacturing companies, such as the Ikegai Steel Works, Ebara Manufacturing Company, Okamoto Machine-Tool Manufacturing Company, Shibaura Machine-Tool Manufacturing Company, Hitachi Precision Machine Manufacturing Company, and others.

The members of the Special Workers' Corps will be instructed to tackle their work during the period of their service in assigned factories, in the spirit of the Special Attack Corps. Much is expected from these groups to keep an unbroken stream of supplies to the front.

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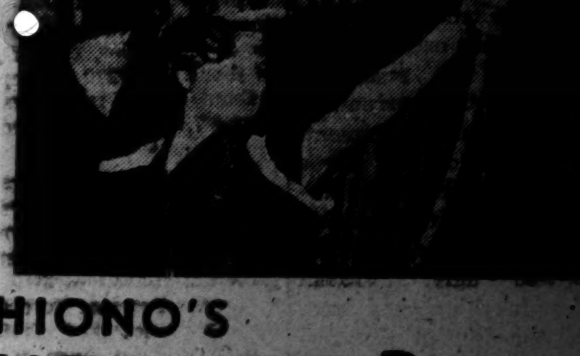

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TOKYO, MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 1945

The European Stampede

The mad stampede by the lesser anti-Axis and neutral nations of Europe to garner as favorable a position as possible in the postwar world is an interesting phenomenon. The hectic jockeying for position and the intensifying diplomatic activity of the so-called "liberated" nations, have evidently been brought about by the wishful belief that, although the war might not progress as swiftly as planned and propagandized by the Anglo-Americans, it nevertheless stands a good chance of ending soon. These countries, therefore, are doing everything possible to ready themselves for a world dominated by Britain or the Soviet Union, or both, and to enable themselves to take as profitable a part as possible in the political reshuffle which they anticipate at the end of the war. Meanwhile, Britain and the Soviet Union seem to be concerning themselves increasingly more with the domestic affairs of these countries, while with the increase in the activity of the Leftist elements the situation in these countries, is becoming chaotic.

Britain, whose policy is to establish a Western European bloc, is assisting and obligating France, which should, the British feel, form politically, economically and militarily an important pillar of the bloc. While Britain is directing strenuous efforts toward making France a powerful postwar collaborator, the Soviet Union too is attempting to increase her influence there by working through the resistance organizations. In the midst of this competition, Charles de Gaulle, who schemes to increase his voice on various European problems, is apparently doing his best to raise France to the status of a great Power and to bring about the recovery of her past prestige by taking part in the administration of the German territories which the anti-Axis forces hope to occupy.

De Gaulle's visit to Moscow was warmly welcomed by the Soviet Union and it can easily be seen that the Anglo-Americans viewed the trip with proportionate displeasure. The Franco-Soviet alliance too was probably concluded by the Soviet Union with the intention of utilizing De Gaulle and of forging strong ties with France by giving her some sort of firm assurance.

In Belgium, violent Leftist reaction was awakened by the Pierlot Government's order for the disarmament of the resistance organizations and the surrendering of all arms to the Government. With the resignation of three Leftist Cabinet members on November 16 and with the intensification of the famine, popular feeling turned ugly. Violent strikes and much bloodshed have ensued and the Pierlot Government is barely maintaining order with the help of the Anglo-American armed forces. The Leftist movement still continues under cover, however, and the program for the establishment of a Western European bloc seems to be meeting great difficulties in Belgium also.

The British and Soviet spheres of influence were apparently settled in outline at the conference in Moscow between Churchill and Marshal Stalin. But there are also indications that when Ivan Subasic, Premier of Yugoslavia, visited Moscow in November, the plan for a Southeastern European Slav federation was discussed. And although it is reported that the Soviet Union agreed to give Britain a free hand in Greece, the bitter conflict in Greece has developed in such a way that Britain is finding herself hard put to save the situation. It is even rumored that the Soviet forces are supporting the ELAS forces. Meanwhile, the Greek problem has been taken up and discussed with great heat in the British Parliament and the cry has been loud against the Government's policy. When Churchill recently asked for a vote of confidence on the issue, most of the Labor Party abstained from voting and Churchill was barely able to gain his vote on Conservative support. Despite the fact that the Greek problem seems now to have passed its crisis, the problem nevertheless holds the seeds of other possible future outbreaks.

In Italy, the Sforza case has served to reveal a new struggle between the United States and Britain. Meanwhile, Leftist influence is gaining in Italy. This may be seen from the fact that there are four Communist Cabinet members in the Bonomi Cabinet, including the Deputy Premier, Palmiro Togliatti.

In the meantime, the Spanish Government of General Francisco Franco is being attacked by the Soviet Union, whose aim it is to depose him. General Franco's position is apparently becoming increasingly more difficult.

The development of the war in Europe has thus made the various countries of Europe prepare to shift from a wartime structure to a peacetime structure. It can be said that revolutionary activity has been started in these countries in order to safeguard their respective interests and to guarantee their safety in the postwar world in the belief that the war is developing in the favor of the anti-Axis side.

But these nations must know that in scrambling feverishly to make themselves compatible with the supposed world to come, they are but preparing themselves to be pawns in a vicious game of power politics. Already they have found themselves in a situation in which they must adjust their structures so that they will not bring down upon themselves the wrath of any of the principal Powers. Their position at best will be one of precarious balance. They must know from past experience that they will be used for bargaining purposes, that they will be sold and resold by the players of the game of power politics.

The situation in these states of Europe may have been brought about by belief that the war is about to end soon in favor of the anti-Axis side. But it seems true that this belief has been aided by a distinct war-weariness, a driving desire to have peace at any price. Without the courage, determination or stamina to fight for their righteous place in the world in the New Order Germany and Japan are striving for, these nations are throwing up their hands and following what may seem to be the path of least resistance, but which really is the way to perpetual servitude. The ultimate outcome of the war, however, will demonstrate that these countries judged the present developments wrongly and too hastily in their timorous desire for peace.

A Year Ago Today
January 8, 1944

Imperial Naval Air Units shot down 39 enemy planes, including seven probables, out of a formation of more than 270 attempting to raid Rabaul on the mornings of January 6 and 7, it was disclosed.

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A total of 13 fighters and North American B-24 bombers came over in several raids against Japanese positions in the Buin area on Bougainville Island on January 6. The Japanese Defense Forces fought the enemy planes and shot down one fighter. No damage was sustained by our side.

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Subhas Chandra Bose, Head of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind, unexpectedly arrived in Burma by air on January 7 to announce the advance of his Government into Burma.

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The Bolivian Government is greatly annoyed by the statement made by U.S. Secretary of State Cordell Hull in his press interview on January 7 to the effect that the Bolivian revolution was incited and aided by outside influence who plan to hinder the defense of the American continent.

* * *

A fighting force composing of Yugoslavians, which was organized recently in the Soviet Union, is now undergoing military training. The Yugoslavian fighting force is under the command of a former commander of a cavalry regiment,

ROLE OF CHOSEN AND TAIWAN

Taiwan Has Great Industrial Future

II

It goes without saying that Taiwan has a great responsibility to develop its fighting power. It must be prepared to run its industries by itself on a self-sufficient basis, and not to depend upon the Japanese mainland no matter how short may be its own working power.

Of all the rice-raising countries in the South, Taiwan is situated nearest to the Japanese mainland. The good quality of Taiwan Horai rice, is well known. Its rice crop is expected to go up into 11,400,000 koku by 1952 under a renewed ten year plan for production increase, an increase of about 3,200,000 koku over the present output. Besides rice, Taiwan produces a good deal of sweet potatoes, wheat, Irish potatoes and vegetables. Of these, sweet potatoes are considered best adaptable to Taiwan soil.

If there be any farm labor shortage in Taiwan, it can be easily met by revising the present farm methods, by improving farm technique, and by mobilizing the so-called dormant labor. By no means can Taiwan afford to be lax on its farming, for the day is coming when the Taiwan farming will guide the farming of the Southern Regions.

Taiwan sugar had filled the Japanese demand for this product until the war came. But with the coming of the war the question of shipping shortage arose. The situation was further affected by the fact that Japan could get plenty of sugar from the Southern Regions. This forced the Taiwan sugar industry to seek a new field. As a result, the land employed hitherto for sugar raising in the northern part was converted toward the production of other foodstuffs.

However, we must take note here of the by-products of Taiwan sugar. They are alcohol, high grade liquid fuel, butanol, pulp, paper, and yeast.

As Chosen is to the Continent, Taiwan constitutes the rivet of a huge fan which spreads out to the rich southern areas. Such a geographical advantage naturally tends to make the whole island transform into a full-fledged battle front. It relieves the island of its industrial dependency upon the Japanese mainland and helps put it on its own footing. In other words, if there is any production shortage in the island in essential war materials and daily necessities, it is up to the people of Taiwan to devise measures promptly to overcome it, so as to maintain its self-sufficiency. This, applied in the case of its mining and manufacturing industries, means to process its products, such as iron, steel, machinery, chemicals and fiber goods into necessary war materials.

Especially important is the building up of heavy industries which depend upon an abundance of electricity, coal, lime stone, natural gas and industrial salt. Although Taiwan has yet to produce industrial goods such as arms and ammunitions, it has the following economic potentialities:

(1) For its metal industry, it has aluminum, magnesium, nickel, copper, silicon iron, and manganese iron;

(2) It has a good machine tool industry for the manufacture and repair of different machine tools and the construction of flat boats and tow-boats;

(3) Its chemical industry produces fuel for aircraft, bromine, leather, tannier, cypress oil, linseed oil, alcohol, pulp and paints;

(4) Its textile industry can process hemp, ramie, cotton, staple fiber, flax fiber, and jute articles;

(5) Its lumber industry produces material for aircraft as the island produces oak, cedar, and other timber;

(6) It produces sugar, cattle, and pineapple.

In the near future Taiwan may be expected to import the following items from the Southern Regions to feed its various industries:

(1) From Hainan Island: iron ore to feed its newly established iron foundry;

(2) From Celebes and Burma: nickel ore for its metal refinery;

(3) From the East Indies: bauxite for the manufacture of aluminum for Japan; and

(4) From the Southern Regions in general: Copra to promote its cocoanut oil industry.

Thus, Taiwan has a great future as a large-scale industrial island so that in a material way it will be able greatly to help toward the strengthening of Japan's fighting power.

(End)

Soon Forgotten

Two students were just going into the classroom for examination in English literature.

"Great Scott," said one. "I've forgotten who wrote Ivanhoe."

"That's easy," replied the other. "I'll tell you that if you'll tell me who the dickens wrote A Tale of Two Cities."

Better Try Lloyds

"Is this the Fidelity Insurance Company?"

"Yes, ma'am, it is. What can we do for you?"

"I want to arrange to have my husband's fidelity insured."

AMERICAN MANPOWER BOTTLENECK

Personnel in Armed Services Totals 11,000,000—Munition Industries Employ 35,000,000 Workers

Editor's Note: The following article by Minoru Okuhata appeared recently in the Shukan Asahi.

In an all-out war, the distribution of human resources has the greatest effect upon the effective manifestation of the total war waging strength of any nation. Especially in the case of the United States is this true in her self-imposed capacity as arsenal of the anti-Axis camp. How is the United States, with a population of 130,000,000, utilizing her manpower resources? Is the ratio between that necessary for her armed forces and for production well adjusted, permitting thus the smooth flow of her total national strength to the front lines? Let us study first of all the situation in regard to her fighting forces.

During an election address at Philadelphia on October 27, President Franklin Roosevelt placed the total American Army and Navy personnel at approximately 11,000,000 men, of which over one-half were serving overseas, and, according to other sources, the mobilization in the armed service up to the present is 11,350,000. This figure was the goal set for the end of June, 1944 by the Draft Board in 1943. Of this number 7,700,000 men were for the Army. Thus, it is clear that the Army and Navy have, fulfilled their quota.

The figure of 11,350,000 men is less than 10 per cent of the total American population, and aside from Japan, it is a comparatively low ratio among the major nations now at war. Ordinarily, it is stated that 10 per cent is the maximum which can be mobilized for military purposes, but in this total war which knows no compromise, the above limit was passed already by Germany and the Soviet Union. The fact that the United States, who is the central power of the anti-Axis camp, should have mobilized less than 10 per cent may appear strange at first glance, but it would be an error to surmise that she has yet an ample surplus on which to fall back. If one takes into consideration the labor necessary for her munitions and agricultural production which easily exceeds the 50,000,000 mark, the mobilization of 11,350,000 men is not so easy.

Mobilization Limit

It has been announced that the 7,700,000 in the Army quoted by the Draft Board as being necessary for the conduct of a world-wide offensive was reached in March of this year, and that at present the Army is enlisting each month only the number required to maintain the existing strength. The American forces require at least 100,000 men each month in order to replace the men killed or wounded at the front, and this is being met by calling up 18-year olds, (America is now conscripting all men between the ages of 18 and 38), of which 60,000 are fit for service, and the remaining 40,000 are taken from those between 18 and 25 years of age, and between 26 and 29 years of age.

On May 9 of last year, the War Department announced that since the inauguration of the national defense plan in November, 1940, the Army had conscripted 8,358,600 men for service up to January 1 of last year, and that during that period, 1,290,085 had left the service. This means that on January 1, the Army had a personnel of 7,086,511, and since then, during the three months to the end of March, the Army had newly conscripted some 630,000 men. On June 30, 1940, the Army generals had numbered 104, under whom were only 266,000 men, but a War Department statement on September 13 last year, revealed the number had risen to 1,300, of which there were six generals, 34 lieutenant generals, 343 major generals and 917 brigadier generals. In the past three and a half years, we can see how great was the expansion of the American Army.

As for the Navy, let us base our studies upon the report submitted on April 20 by Admiral King, Chief of Naval Operations and concurrently Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Fleet.

Said King, "Together with the warship, construction program, the vigorous expansion of the personnel has been carried out, and at present, of the entire enlisted force, only a small portion are veteran Navy men. Specifically, 90 per cent of the commissioned officers, and 80 per cent of the non-commissioned officers and seamen were enlisted after the outbreak of the war. The personnel of the Navy, which stood at 325,090, excluding cadets and nurses, on December 7, 1941, had increased to 2,255,600 by December 31, 1943, and during the same period the marines had increased from 7,425 to 391,620, and the coast guards from 35,002 to 171,518."

Also, the Navy Department announced on July 16, that the scheduled mobilization figure of 3,650,000 was reached by the end of June of last year. When compared to the 2,815,744 at the end of last year, it means that the United States Navy had newly conscripted about 835,000 men, and it is interesting to note that from the beginning of this year, the mobilization figures for the Navy are exceedingly high as compared to that of the Army.

U.S. Air Force Personnel

An often quoted observation is that wherever the American land naval units operate, a protecting umbrella of aircraft is always opened. Let us study next the personnel strength of the Army and Navy air forces.

At present, the American Army, under the command of the Army Air Force, General Arnold, has a total of 16 combat air commands, of which the largest in personnel is the Eighth Air Command, now overseas in England under the command of James Doolittle. It has 2,300 bombers, and together with the Ninth Command which had been sent to Britain in February of last year, it is said to compare favorably with the entire capacity of the British air force.

On April 9 of last year, which marked the second anniversary of the reorganization of the Army air force, the personnel had risen to 2,385,000 men, which according to the War Department announcement was four times that of March, 1942. Details are not known of subsequent expansions since that date, but judging from the fact that the mobilization of the entire Army ended in March, it can be surmised that though reinforced, it has not been greatly increased. The figure of 2,380,000 comprises 32 per cent of the total mobilization of 7,700,000 men of the entire Army, illustrating the vital role being played by the air force.

Specific figures regarding the personnel of the Navy air force have not been announced. But taking into consideration the fact that the United States has presumably about 100 aircraft carriers including regular, converted and escort types, and about 25,000 planes in front line action, it would be no error in stating that the ratio of men employed in the naval air force to the total number of men in the entire Navy which is 3,650,000 is considerably great.

Overseas Men

At this point, before going into the relationship between the industrial and military mobilization, it is necessary to study the expeditionary forces fighting overseas.

By last June, the total American servicemen sent overseas had reached 5,200,000, of which the Navy, including the coast guards and marines, totalled 1,566,000 and the Army, 3,657,000, exclusive of 900,000 men in the Navy and 1,500,000 men in the Army who were being trained within America as reserves to be sent abroad. At the War Veteran's Convention at Chicago on September 18, the Army Chief-of-Staff, General George Marshall declared: "The total number of U.S. Army personnel (including the air force) at present engaged in fighting in the various war fronts of the world, is 4,000,000, and this number is being daily increased. During this month, eight divisions are scheduled to depart for the battle fronts, and within a short time the American Army force overseas will rise to 88 divisions." Thus, within the three months, the Army alone had increased by about 350,000. During the First World War, there were only 2,047,675 men overseas at the most, but at present, almost three times this number are now at the front lines.

Judging by announcements made up to the present, the First, Third, Seventh and Ninth Army Corps have been sent to the Western front, the Fifth to Italy, and the Sixth to the Pacific, while the main force of the Navy has been directed to the Pacific area. But in order to maintain such a large force of over 5,500,000 men overseas, how many workers must there be in the munitions industry?

A glance at the mobilization situation in America reveals that one-half of the total population, or approximately 65,000,000 men and women have been mobilized for military and production purposes, but of this, as already pointed out, 11, 350,000 men are in the armed services, and the remaining 53,650,000 men and women are employed in the industries. This is a ratio of 1 to 4.7. It is ordinarily held that for each man at the front lines seven to eight workers are necessary, but in the case of the United States who boasts of mass production and advanced technology the ratio is apparently lower.

However, she must send under her Lend-Lease policy a large amount of war materials and foodstuffs to England and other nations, while on the other hand, one must also take into consideration her type of warfare which relies upon excessive material strength. Compared to the fact that in England 15,000,000 persons out of the total of 15,900,000 men between the ages of 14 and 64, have already been mobilized, the United States may be faring better, but 70 per cent of the total male population and 30 per cent of the female population have already been called up. Of the number necessary for production, about 35,000,000 (the figures vary according to different standards) have been distributed among the war industries, and 18,000,000 in agricultural fields and civilian industries. The member of, men employed totals 33,000,000 and the women, 20,000,000.

Persons between the ages of 14 and 64 are regarded as best suited for mobilization purposes, the number between these ages usually comprising 70 per cent of the total population. If this general method of estimation is applied, one may say that in the United States, all males who may be of value to the national war effort have been called up. At this point, one may recall the statement of a certain American newspaper that under wartime conditions today, the United States is not suffering especial shortage, with the exception of human resources.

America's Difficulties

How, then, is the United States suffering under the shortage of manpower?

First of all is the problem of maintaining the existing armed force. The new regulations announced on June 22 by the Draft Board in regard to the deferring of conscription is one countermeasure against it. From the point of fighting capacity, the postponement of conscription of all males under the age of 25 is not recognized in the United States, but from 26 up, special privileges are granted in regard to persons engaged in vital wartime occupations. According to the new rules, however, the period of deferment was drastically cut. (1) All males over 30 years of age engaged in occupations vital for the wartime emergency may defer their conscription until further regulations are announced. (2) The conscription of males between 26 and 29 years of age will be postponed for a short period. (3) The postponement period for those under 29 years of age is six months, and those over 30, over six months.

Thus, even those over 30 years of age engaged in vital occupations may enjoy their privilege only until further regulations are made. Such measures already in effect since the beginning of last year as the conscription of fathers, the abolition of deferment for agricultural workers, and the scheduled drafting of students all reflect the desperation of the American authorities in maintaining the armed strength. Since the end of 1943, an attempt had been made to fill the mobilization gaps by the drafting of those who had deferred their conscription, as well as through the calling up of agricultural workers and fathers, but it appears that even these measures are proving to be inadequate.

Casualties on the Front

The casualties being suffered by the American forces must also be taken into consideration. On November 9, the Office for War Information announced the casualties at 508,000 men. Assuming for the moment that this figure is correct, it means that only 5 per cent of her total armed force has thus been affected. But, despite this fact, already today she is finding it extremely difficult to maintain her existing strength.

As American war strategy is based on the use of material power, a decrease of production personnel would be disastrous. In the Marshall campaign conducted last February, 2,000,000 tons of ships were used, and the huge sum of $6,000,000,000 expended. Explaining this great expense, Secretary of the Treasury, Henry Morgenthau, revealed that it included the cost of airplanes, fuel, explosives, equipment of officers and men, as well as the training of the men. In view of the fact that Morgenthau, who has no connection with military strategy or diplomatic affairs took part in the second Quebec Conference, one opinion is expressed that he had gone there in order to explain to Churchill the astronomical sums being spent for the Pacific campaign. The sum of $6,000,000,000 comprises one-thirtieth of the total war expenditures of the United States up to the present. The fact that she expended such a large amount to capture a small group of islands explains the difficulties confronting the strategy of the United States which is based on the use of material power.

Let us name three specific illustrations.

The first is the announcement by the American Army air transportation headquarters that cargo planes are crossing the Atlantic Ocean at the rate of one plane every 19 minutes, and that during September alone, 1,800,000 pounds of vital war materials were conveyed by them.

Secondly, according to the words of the head of the Navy medical staff, MacIntyre, the Navy had been sending a weekly amount of 100,000 pints of serums and blood to the wounded soldiers on the Pacific war front, and from November, this volume was not only to be increased, but they were scheduled to reach the front lines within 48 hours by air. Roosevelt once declared of the American shipping bottom that 480 ships were constantly engaged in transporting supplies to the front. It is clear through these two examples that the American men at the front are not receiving merely military equipment. A fully equipped soldier requires from 10 to 12 tons of equipment per day when carrying out ordinary landing operations, and 120 tons monthly thereafter, but it is a question whether this accepted standard can be applied in the case of the American men.

Thirdly, there is the example of the Eighth Air command. Since the commencement of the first offensive against the Louen district on August 12, 1942, the planes of this air force went into action 301,000 times, dropped 300,000 tons of explosives, and lost 4,900 planes, including 31,000 men up to August 12 of last year. Thus we may see what a large number of workers is necessary for each man stationed overseas in the American material warfare. And this type of strategy has been adopted in order to keep as low as possible the casualties suffered in the front lines.

The United States is thus attempting to hold down at a minimum level the losses in men, but in order to do so, she must maintain at least the present force of war workers. Thus faced with the problem of having to uphold at the same time both her military and production personnel, America is undergoing great hardships in her search for a workable solution.

DESTRUCTION OF EUROPEAN CULTURE

Americans Are Destroying Spiritual Values on Continent

By MITSUO NAKAMURA

The destruction of cultural relics in Europe by American and British troops has become an issue again.

I would like to jot down in this article my reflections in connection with this problem of the destruction of cultural inheritance.

First of all, we must make a clear difference between culural inheritance in possession of a people and culture actually alive in the life of the people in order to grasp clearly this problem. One must refer to Egypt and Greece, first of all, when mentioning countries possessing a superior cultural inheritance from ancient times. No one, however, will think of these countries as being a leading cultural nation at present. It is clear to every one by this extreme comparison that regardless of the number of splendid memorials that are remaining today from the past they alone do not possess the power to create a living culture in a people. On the contrary, cultural relics of the past became of value in the present only when they affect the spirit of the living people.

The nobleness and strength of the actually living spirit of a people constitutes the essence of culture in any nation and in any period. Relics of a past culture can only become the property of a people through the medium of the strength of this living culture. Judged from this point we may think of cultural relics and inheritance as two separate things. When we speak about cultural relics we mean physical vestiges of a past culture. Egypt and Greece, for instance, belong to this category. When present-day culture is organically bound with the past and when cultural monuments of the past actually affect the spirit of a people as in France and Germany, they are called cultural inheritance.

The advanced culture of ancient times is not necessarily inherited by the people of the area where it was born. For example, the culture of ancient Greece is only a relic to the Greek people of today but is still a valuable cultural inheritance to the peoples in Europe and to nations which had received the influence of European culture. The people who are able to accept the great culture of the past as an inheritance are people keeping the nobleness of the spirit alive at present. The higher and more excellent the culture which is accepted as an inheritance, the heavier will the burden be placed upon our spirit. This is because our spirit must attain an appropriate high level first of all in order to pattern our life according to this superior value.

Cultural inheritance, like all property is certain to envoke a serious feeling of responsibility in the spirit of its repository who is truly worth of it. The realization of the value of the inheritance is for that person, nothing else than to endure this trial of being burdened with the responsibility. He is not only able by having endured the trial to vivify his acquired cultural inheritance in the present moment but is also able to vivify actually his own spirit. It seems that France and Italy are the two countries at present where American and British troops are indulging in their acts of violence. Has there not been a strong tendency before the war in these two countries to think of culture as merely being stored in libraries and museums?

During my short tour through Italy I received the unforgettable queer feeling as probably every traveler does. Large sums of money are annually left behind by tourists and Florence and Venice were money-getters for Italy. That numerous cultural memorials, which originally should be the spiritual treasure of the people, are being so openly utilized by the tourist business as materials to acquire foreign currency in utter neglect of their original mission, creates in one a feeling of pity rather than displeasure. Native citizens were hardly seen inside the museums of fine arts, presumably because of the high admittance fees. The most noticeable visitors were groups of American tourists, led by English-speaking guides.

It seemed to me that a very wide gap exists between the spirit of the people who lived during the Renaissance period and that of the present-day Italians. I shall be happy, if I am mistaken in thinking that the Italians of today have made little effort to make the spirit contained in this precious inheritance their own but are merely busy in acquiring material profits from their supercilious right of ownership.

When one is acquainted with this situation he will not be especially astonished to hear that almost all the excellent books on Renaissance have been written by foreign authors and only a very few by the Italians themselves. During my trip to Italy, I had the impression that renaissance is an inheritance enjoyed by Europe today and is a mere relic to Italy. When Renaissance becomes a mere relic to Europe it will then become an inheritance to be enjoyed by mankind. The destruction of the monuments of the Renaissance by American and British troops is rather a loss for entire mankind than a loss for Italy alone.

Cathedrals in various parts in France, which probably had been ruthlessly destroyed since the landing on Normandy, have become a part of the cultural life of the French people. France is a nation of culture. Every one admits that France is still the owner of a leading culture in the world at present as she had represented the spirit of European culture for many centuries in the past. Unlike other countries in Europe, no social changes in France were able to result in the death of her culture since the 11th century. Big dislocations in history such as the great revolution and the Hundred Years War had been opportunities for a renovation of her culture.

However, even this extraordinarily tough power of French cultural traditions apparently seems to be unable to resist the declining fate according to French scholars of culture. We shall take an example of this from French literature. Twentieth century writers in France have not produced great masterpieces. Only shoddy works were produced by French writers. In fact, the importation of cheap foreign culture became the fashion of the century. The Americanization of Paris has especially become more and more accelerated in recent years. There is not a single time when one does not see the brown suits of the Americans in an opera house or theater. American drinks are served in smart bars. News about important American personalities crossing the Atlantic are given wide prominence in newspapers and envoke the curiosity of the public. The Americanization of dancing, young people's tastes in clothes and styles of architecture creates sighs from old-fashioned aged people. Though one speaks of Paris as an "international city" it has actually been degraded into a cultural colony ruled over by the American dollar.

The thing which I have written here are not for the purpose of abusing the French and Italian peoples who are suffering in the midst of tragic and pitiful circumstances. I have only written about the raw examples set before me that the cultural inheritance of a nation, although appearing to have no relations with the daily activities of the people, does frequently symbolize in a certain way the fate of the nation.

This is natural when one recalls that the characteristic of modern warfare is a decisive battle to determine the rise or fall of the people and that the mutual conflict between peoples is finally determined by the quality of their respective culture. When one recalls that the weak points of their culture is the weakness of their nation and the strong points of their culture is the strength of their nation to all countries fighting the battle of today, we should have no hesitation regarding the mission of men of letters.

Fruits of Wisdom

The loss of a mother is always severely felt: even though her health may incapacitate her from taking any active part in the care of her family, still she is a sweet rallying-point, around which affection and obedience, and a thousand tender endeavors to please, concentrate; and dreary is the blank when such a point is withdrawn.—Lamartine.

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It is a man's own dishonesty, his crimes, his wickedness, and base-faced assurance, that takes away from his soundness of mind. These are the furies, these the flames and firebrands, of the wicked.—Cicero.